

# ***Headquarters U.S. Air Force***

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***Integrity - Service - Excellence***

## **Legislative Update**



**U.S. AIR FORCE**

**Briefing to  
the Air Section**

**Wayne R. Gracie  
HQ USAF/REI  
6 Feb 2001**



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# ***Overview***

- **FY 2001 Legislation**
- **President's Goals and Objectives**
- **Future Initiatives / Timeline**



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# ***FY 2001 Authorization Marks***

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# ***End Strength Increase***

- **Section 411, 412, 413**
  - **AFRC**
    - **Increases end strength by 58 AGRs (50 recruiters, 8 Red Horse)**
    - **Increases technicians by 52**



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# ***Exclusion of Reservists from Active Component End Strengths***

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## **■ Section 422**

- Exempts not more than 0.2 of 1%, of the active duty end strength of RC members on active duty performing special work in support of the combatant commanders, from counting against the active component end strengths**
  - Below the grade of brig gen, not more than 270 days**



# ***Reserve Component Chiefs***

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## **■ Section 507**

- Requires upgrade of reserve component chiefs to Lt Gen within 12 months of enactment**
- Retains the requirement that the RC Chiefs be joint qualified and extends the time period the SecDef may waive this requirement through FY 2003**
- Amends 10 USC 525(b) to increase the current limit on the number of officers that may serve above major general, while maintaining the limit on the number of GOs**



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# ***Exemption from AD List for Reserve Officers on AD (3 yrs or less)***

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## ■ **Section 521**

- **Prevents a reserve officer voluntarily serving on AD for a period of 3 years or less from being placed on the AD list and authorizes the reserve officer to remain on the RASL and compete for promotion with other reserve officers**



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# ***Eligibility of Children of Reservists for Presidential Appt to Service Academies***

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## **■ Section 531**

- Makes the children of members of reserve components and retired or retirement-eligible reservists eligible for presidential appointments to the service academies on the same basis as children of active duty or retired active duty personnel**
- Requires the equivalent of eight years of active duty before eligible**





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# ***Per Diem for Members Subject to Lengthy/Numerous Deployments***

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## **■ Section 574**

- Amends section 586 of the FY 2000 NDAA
  - Requires GO to approve deployments of more than 220 of the last 365 days**
  - Requires payment of high-deployment per diem allowance for 401 or more days of the preceding 730 days****
- Requires the SecDef to submit a report on the administration of this provision and make recommendations for revision by 31 Mar 02**
- High deployment per diem is an operational cost and must be paid from O&M accounts**



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# ***Pay in Lieu of Allowance for Funeral Honors Duty***

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## ■ **Section 575**

- **Authorizes the SecAF to pay a RC member who performs funeral honors duty using either the stipend authorized in the FY 2000 NDAA or one day of basic pay, as if the funeral honor duty was a UTA, effective 1 Oct 00**



# ***Military Pay Raise***

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- **Section 601**
  - **3.7% increase effective 1 Jan 01**



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# ***Additional Restructuring of Basic Pay for Enlisted Members***

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## **■ Section 602**

- Restructures the basic pay tables for enlisted members in the grades of E-5, E-6 and E-7, effective 1 Jul 01, to increase the basic pay rates for members in these grades**
- Authorizes the SecDef to, on a one-time basis, adjust the basic pay tables for enlisted members to increase the rate of basic pay**
  - SecDef must submit legislative proposal in FY 2002**



## ■ Section 605

- Repeals the requirement that service members pay 15% of housing costs out-of-pocket
- Authorizes SecDef to increase BAH rates and to reduce out-of-pocket housing expenses to zero by FY 2005

## ■ Section 606

- Authorizes additional \$30M for BAH inside the US to reduce out-of-pocket expenses by an additional 1/2 of 1%



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# ***Increase in Maximum Number of Retirement Points***

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## **■ Section 652**

- Increases from 75 to 90 the maximum number of days in any one year that a reservist may accrue as credit towards retirement benefits (for attending drills, performing annual training and completing correspondence courses)**



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# ***RC Survivor Benefit Plan Spousal Consent Requirement***

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## **■ Section 655**

- Requires retirement-eligible reservists to obtain the concurrence of their spouses before making a decision**
  - to decline or defer participation in the RC SBP**
  - to select a level of participation that is less than the maximum available**
  - to select the coverage of a child but not the spouse**



# ***Thrift Savings Plan***

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## ■ **Section 661**

### ■ **Authorizes TSP**

- **Member may deposit up to 5% of their basic pay with no matching government contribution**
- **Member may deposit special pays, incentive pays and bonuses up to extent allowed under IRS code**
- **Authorizes secretary to make contributions to members serving in critical specialties**

### ■ **Establishes effective date for offering the TSP to active and reserve personnel NLT 180 days from enactment**

### ■ **Permits Thrift Board to delay the effective date by an additional 180 days with notification of the Armed Services Committee**





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# ***Billeting Services for Reservists Traveling for IDT***

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## **■ Section 663**

- Requires the SecDef to promulgate regulations that would authorize reservists traveling to IDTs at a location more than 50 miles from their residence to be eligible for billeting in DoD facilities on the same basis as active duty personnel traveling for official purposes**



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# ***Reimbursement for Reservists' Travel Expenses***

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- **HASC Item of Interest**
  - **Directs the SecDef to review current travel practices used by reservists to meet training obligations to determine financial impact, assess potential advantages of providing reimbursement for travel expenses, and report by 31 Mar 01**



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# ***Future Initiatives***



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# ***107th Congress Legislation***

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- **HR93: Federal Firefighters Retirement Age Fairness**
- **S155: Military Technician Retirement**
- **HR65, S170: Military Retirement Equity**
- **HR244, HR298: Military Pay Equity**



# ***AFRC Priorities***

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## **■ People**

- Recruiting and Retention**
- Accessibility/Volunteerism**
- Family and Employer Support**
- Remaining Barriers to Integration**



# ***AFRC Priorities***

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- **Readiness**
  - **Rising cost of O&M with an Aging Fleet**
  - **Modifications**
  - **Milcon Funding**



# ***AFRC Priorities***

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## ■ **Modernization**

- **Modernization that is compatible with active Air Force (upgrade and modernization of current systems)**
- **Inclusion in modernization plans that involve new systems and sub-systems**
- **Implications of aging aircraft**

**Full Partner = Full Capability**



# ***FY 2002 ULB***

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- **Overnight Health Care Coverage for RC Members**
- **Basic Pay Rate for Certain Reserve Commissioned Officers with Prior Reserve Enlisted Service**
- **Reserve Service Requirement (from 8 to 6 years permanently)**
- **60 Day Leave Sell-back**
- **Commissary Benefits**





# ***FY 2003 ULB***

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- **Increased Prior Service Enlistment Bonus**
- **Last move travel and transportation allowances for mil techs**
- **ART COLAs**
- **Heroism Pay for RC**
- **Employer Tax Credit**
- **BAH for single reservists**
- **ACIP/CEFIP - paid at full month rate**
- **Health Care Voucher**



# ***Other Issues***

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- **Extend time limit on use of MGIB beyond ten years**
- **Eliminate commissary cards**
- **Eliminate BAH-II**



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# ***Timeline***

**3 Jan Congress Convened**  
**6 Jan Official Electoral Vote Tally**  
**20 Jan Presidential Inauguration**  
**3 Apr President Submits FY 2002 Budget**  
**Feb - May Congressional Hearings**  
**Late Jun National Security Strategy Submitted**  
**May-Sep Congressional Action on Appropriations and Authorization Bills**  
**30 Sep QDR Submitted**  
**1 Oct FY 2002 begins**



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# ***Summary***

- **Legislation enacted during 106th Congress greatly helped Reservists and their families**
- **Outlook for 107th Congress is more discussion on recruiting and retention, readiness and modernization**
  - **Schedule will be compressed due to transition**



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# *Questions*

